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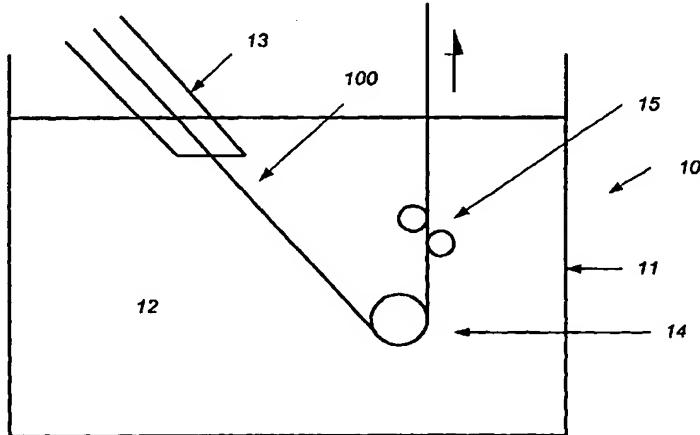
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(54) Title: HOT DIP COATING APPARATUS



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(57) Abstract: Hot dip coating apparatus (10) for coating a steel strip (12) in a Al-Zn alloy bath (12) comprises components (such as sink roll 14) that are made from stainless steel containing an appreciable amount of nitrogen distributed substantially uniformly through its microstructure. The nitrogen is incorporated into the stainless steel as an alloy additive and improves the steel's corrosion resistance and minimises pitting and thinning of the component when immersed in the metal bath for extended periods.